BASIS FOR THE AMENDMENT

Claim 1 has been canceled

Claims 2-4 have been amended.

New Claims 5-14 have been added.

Support for the amendment to Claims 2-4 is provided by original Claims 2-4 as filed. New Claim 5 is supported by original Claim 1 and page 5, lines 14-27. New Claim 6 is supported by page 5, lines 9-11. New Claims 7-10 are supported by page 5, lines 1-5. New Claims 11-12 are supported by page 7, lines 13-19. New Claim 13 is supported by page 3, line 17 to page 4, line 1. New Claim 14 is supported by page 6, lines 18-19.

No new matter is believed to be entered by these amendments.

REMARKS

Claims 2-14 are pending in the present application.

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Tizio and Examimer Venkat for the helpful and courteous discussion with their undersigned Representative on April 3, 2002.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of Claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph.

MPEP §2164.04 states:

> A specification disclosure which contains a teaching of the manner and process of making and using an invention in terms which correspond in scope to those used in describing and defining the subject matter sought to be patented must be taken as being in compliance with the enablement requirement of 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, unless there is a reason to doubt the objective truth of the statements contained therein which must be relied on for enabling support.

At page 3, lines 9-15, the Applicants define the preferred drugs that may be used as a component of the probe. At page 3, lines 18 through page 4, line 7, the Applicants provide guidance for the selection of suitable cross-linkers, complete with a list of preferred examples, to tether the drug to the antigenic substance. Further, at page 4, lines 8-22, the Applicants provide a detailed description of suitable antigenic substances. Moreover, at page 4, lines 23-27, page 6, lines 1-5, and page 6, line 14 to page 7, line 5, the Applicants provide explanations of how to make the claimed compounds. Not only do the Applicants provide adequate disclosure to fully enable the skilled artisan to make the claimed compounds, Applicants have provided a screening method to enable the skilled artisan to assess the effectiveness of the compounds made thereby (page 7, line 6 to page 10, line 13). Therefore, the Applicants have met their burden of clearly defining the scope of the claimed compounds, how to make the compounds, and how to use the compounds.

Accordingly, this ground of rejection is unsustainable and should be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is obviated in part by amendment and traversed in part.

Regarding the term "antigenic substance," Applicants direct the Examiner to page 4, lines 8-22, which clearly defines this term as "a substance which *per se* has immunogenicity." Further, Applicants disclose that the target antibody of the antigenic substance should be easily available and have low binding propensity to other biocomponents (page 4, lines 11-14). Accordingly, this term would be readily understood by the skilled artisan in view of the present disclosure.

Applicants request withdrawal of this ground of rejection.

The objection to the title is traversed.

MPEP §606 states, "The title should be brief but technically accurate and descriptive and should contain fewer than 500 characters." Applicants submit that the current title adequately address these requirements. Accordingly, this objection should be withdrawn.

The objections to Claim 4 under 37 C.F.R. §1.75(c), to the specification, and to the abstract are obviated by amendment.

Applicants submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Early notification of such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Docket No.: 198323US0PCT
Serial No.: 09/647,924

MARKED-UP COPY

ABSTRACT

Please replace the original Abstract at page 12 with the substitute Abstract appended herewith.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 18 with:

As the chemical cross linker, Sulfosuccinimidyl-4-(p-maleimidophenyl)butylate (Sulfo-SMPB) was employed. BSA was used as an antigenic substance. The compound (A) (22 mg) and Sulfo-SMPB (10 mg) were dissolved in a phosphate buffer (pH 7-9) and the resultant solution was stirred for one hour at room temperature. Subsequently, BSA (327 mg) was added thereto and the mixture was stirred at room temperature. After completion of the reaction, the mixture was desalted using a [Kwik Sep™] KWIK SEP™ column, to thereby yield a probe (approximately 300 mg).

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claim 1.

Please amend the claims as follows:

--2. (Amended) [A] The detection method according to claim [1] 5, wherein the antigenic substance is serum albumin or fluorescein isothiocyanate.

3. (Amended) [A] The detection method according to claim [1 or 2] 5, wherein the cDNA expression library [contains a phage as a] is contained in a phage vector.

4. (Amended) [A] The detection method according to [any one of claims 1 through 3] claim 5, wherein the drug is non-protein and *per se* exhibits no antigenicity.

5.-14. (New)--